

# Mark This Date



**May 24**  
MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE  
*Community Opinion Surveys Made Easy*  
Grand Rapids – Eberhard Center  
734.662.3246

**May 30**  
MSU EXTENSION  
*2006 Zoning Enabling Act*  
Clinton Township – Verkuilen Building  
586.469.5180

**June 5**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC  
*Business Basics Seminar*  
Mt. Clemens – Macomb County  
Administration Bldg.  
586.469.5118

**June 9**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC/MBPA  
*Develop a Cost-Effective Marketing Plan*  
Warren – MBPA Offices  
586.393.8800

**June 12**  
MACOMB COUNTY DEPT. OF PLANNING  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
*Trails & Green Infrastructure Public Workshop*  
Clinton Township - MISD Building  
586.469.5285

**June 17**  
MACOMB COUNTY DEPART. OF  
PLANNING & ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT/HEALTH DEPART.  
*Family Fun & Fitness on the Trails*  
Washington Township – Glacier Club  
734.662.3246

**June 20**  
SEMCOG  
*Access Management*  
Detroit – SEMCOG Offices  
313.961.4266

Nancy M. White  
Chair

Joan Flynn  
Vice-Chair

Leonard Haggerty  
Sergeant-at-Arms

Andrey Duzij  
Marvin E. Sauger  
Phillip A. DiMaria  
Jon M. Switalski  
Susan L. Doherty  
Sue Rocca  
James E. McCarthy  
Robert Mijac  
Philis DeSaele  
Ed Szczechanski  
Peter J. Lund  
Don Brown  
Brian Brdak  
Keith Rengert  
William J. Revoir  
Bobby L. Hill  
Bob Gibson  
Paul Gielegem  
Betty M. Slinde  
William A. Crouchman  
Peggy A. Kennard  
Kathy D. Vosburg  
Nicholyn A. Brandenburg



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**June 27**  
SEMCOG  
*Selecting Your Legal Structure*  
Planning it Safe in Southeast Michigan  
Detroit – SEMCOG Offices  
313.961.4266

**June 27**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC  
*Selecting Your Legal Structure*  
Mt. Clemens – Macomb County  
Administration Building  
586.469.5118

**July 12**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC/SBA  
Team SBA  
Mt. Clemens – Macomb County  
Administration Building  
586.469.5118

**July 18**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC  
*Business Basics Seminar*  
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County  
Administration Building  
586.469.5118

**July 20**  
MACOMB COUNTY DEPT. OF PLANNING  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
*Planners' Exchange*  
Topic and Location: TBD  
586.469.5285

**July 21**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC/EDA OF  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY  
*Business Basics Seminar*  
Port Huron – Citizens First M-TEC Bldg.  
586.469.5118

**July 28**  
MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC/MBPA  
*Going to the Bank: What You Need to Know*  
Warren – MBPA Offices  
586.393.8800

**October 11-14**  
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING  
*Annual Conference*  
Detroit – Marriott  
734.913.2000

PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES



## Staff News

The Department of Planning and Economic Development is pleased to welcome their spring interns.



Katrina Balog comes from the Wayne State University Master's in Urban Planning Program. She is in her first year there and plans to specialize in Managing Metropolitan Growth.



Allison Mace, a graduate of Eisenhower High School, is a student at Grand Valley State University who will be interning in both the Planning and Public Affairs departments for Macomb County. Allison is seeking a degree in Advertising and Public Relations.



Alex Hritcu is currently a student at Wayne State University working on a Masters Degree in Urban Planning. He has a BA from University of Tennessee in Urban Studies and looks to focus on economic development and downtown revitalization.



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DEPARTMENT OF  
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ECONOMIC  
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## Focus Macomb: A Partnership for Economic Development

One of the most recent projects of the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development is the development and support of a newly formed advisory group that will concentrate on promoting the county as a vibrant place to live and work.

Charged with the responsibility of enhancing the county's image, encouraging new economic investment, creating new types of employment opportunities and bolstering quality of life issues, the nearly 100 members of "Focus Macomb" represent a cross-section of leaders in business, education, government and healthcare.



The group was first conceptualized as part of the 2003 Strategic Visioning Task Force, chaired by Macomb Community College President Al Lorenzo. This group recommended, among other things, that a public-private partnership be developed to support economic development. The idea was furthered supported by the Department of Planning and Economic Development's efforts to establish a brand identity - another recommendation of the Strategic Visioning Task Force.

What does it mean? The county is developing a solid strategy for ensuring that Macomb is poised to meet emerging industries that

will provide the next wave of investment and employment for the county while maintaining a highly desirable place to live and play.

Co-chairs of Focus Macomb are Roy Rose, President of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc., a Shelby Township based civil engineering and architecture firm and Don Torline, President of Baker College of Clinton Township. Both will help to oversee four committees that will address issues of imminent importance: business development, education/workforce development, quality of life and transportation.

Charter Members of Focus Macomb were treated to a luncheon held at Best Western Sterling Inn

on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The event featured a bevy of speakers including Board Chair Nancy White, Commissioner Kathy Vosburg and Detroit Regional Chamber's Dick Blouse and John Carroll. Edsel Ford II, the keynote speaker, inspired the group to make Macomb County a premiere destination within the metropolitan Detroit area.

The first goal of Focus Macomb is to develop a set of recommendations for the Board of Commissioners regarding each of the focus areas. A formal presentation is planned for November 2006.

To receive a copy of this newsletter, please call 586.469.5285 and ask to be put onto our mailing list.





## County Hires Company for Brownfield Grant

AKT-Peerless was recently selected to provide assistance to the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development with administering the Brownfield Assessment Grant. Macomb County received the grant from the United States Environment Protection Agency (USEPA). The assessment grant funding will be used to: educate the public, local communities, and real estate professionals regarding brownfield redevelopment; create an inventory of potential redevelopment opportunities across the County; conduct environmental assessment testing at prioritized sites and finally, to market prioritized sites for redevelopment.

The Department of Planning and Economic Development is currently finalizing contracts with the USEPA and expects to announce the date of the Brownfield Redevelopment Initiative Kick Off meeting within the next month.

Founded in 1989, AKT-Peerless is an award winning, Michigan based, environmental consulting firm. AKT-Peerless has assisted several communities administering USEPA grants, and has been very successful in facilitating the redevelopment of numerous sites as a result of their expertise. In addition to its experience working with USEPA, AKT-Peerless has been very active in Southeast Michigan and has worked with nearly every community in Macomb County.

## Community Highlights: City of Memphis



The City of Memphis, approximately 1 square mile in size, was established in 1835. Sited equally in Macomb and St. Clair Counties, Memphis is still a quiet, agricultural based community. Located in the northeast corner of Macomb County, the municipality is situated on a bluff overlooking the Belle River.

Over the past two decades the City's population has fluctuated only slightly. The 2006 total population was 1,092 residents of which 814 reside on the Macomb County side. Commercial activity is concentrated along a traditional main street – Memphis Ridge Road.

Memphis Ridge Road (M-19) is the main north-south route which links Memphis to the City of Richmond and Gratiot Avenue to the south and I-69 to the north. Bordman Road, which forms the northern boundary of the County,

bisects Memphis providing the main east-west route through the City.

Memphis's most famous landmark is called "The Thing", a historical marker noting the home of the first automobile. Three community parks are located within the borders: The Edward Musial Memorial Park, The Old School Park, and the ballfield. In 2001, a new high-tech junior/senior high school was constructed to provide expanded areas for science and technology facilities. Separate junior and senior high academic wings are anchored to a main street corridor that houses the shared media center, 1,000 seat gymnasium, cafetorium, performing arts center, and vocational spaces.



Situated far north of the urbanized fringe, Memphis will likely retain its quiet atmosphere and small town American character for some time to come.

## Ask THE Planner

**Q: What are subdivision regulations?**

**A:** Subdivision regulations apply when land is divided into more lots than are permitted under the lot split provisions of the Land Division Act. Subdivision regulations are adopted to regulate proposed subdivisions or plats. They establish the administrative review and evaluation procedure for processing conceptual, preliminary, and final plats. Subdivision regulations help ensure that the new lots conform to the community's zoning standards, and that the street layouts are convenient and safe.

## Business Attraction Website Launched

Macomb County has recently launched a new economic development website, [www.MacombBusiness.com](http://www.MacombBusiness.com). The site is specifically designed to increase the national and global profile of Macomb County as a community where businesses and families thrive. The website provides the information required by businesses when considering where to relocate, expand or start their operation. Users are provided with a direct and single point of contact where their questions can be quickly answered and valuable information is provided in order to help businesses in Macomb County succeed.

Information at [www.MacombBusiness.com](http://www.MacombBusiness.com) includes: a detailed description of the free and confidential services provided to businesses through the Department of Planning and Economic Development, data about Macomb County's workforce, educational and job training programs, financial incentives, taxes, exceptional infrastructure, location, key industries, quality of life, demographics and much more.

We invite you to explore this new website and discover the many ways in which Macomb County is Defining Business + Life.

## Target Industry Study to Begin

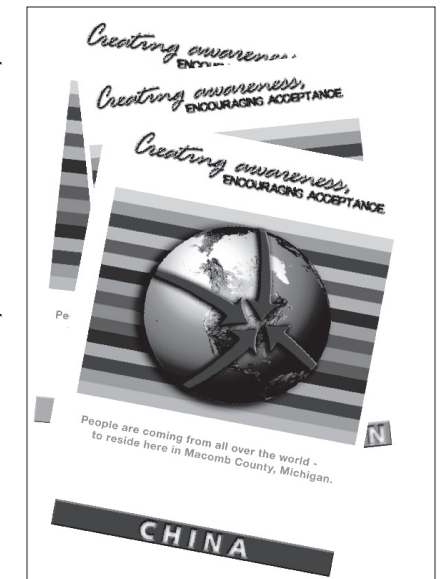
Macomb County recently hired a consulting firm to complete an Emerging Sectors Study that will be used as a key element in formulating the overall County Economic Development Marketing Strategy. The study is designed to identify expanding global industrial sectors and determine which are the best fits for Macomb County's business attraction efforts. Companies in each of the sectors will then be identified. The Department of Planning and Economic Development will develop key messages for the companies in each of the targeted sectors and actively pursue those opportunities.

Intellitrend, a market vision and strategy company, has been retained to do the study. They have divided the process into three phases: a current economic base scan, an economic opportunity development assessment, and a business and industry incentive plan. The study will be completed by July 2006.

## Diversity in Macomb County

In order to promote awareness and understanding of diversity in Macomb County, the Central Macomb Chamber of Commerce approached the Department of Planning and Economic Development about researching and writing brochures highlighting many of the new immigrant cultures currently living and working in Macomb County. The Department is currently working on a series of 20 diversity brochures in conjunction with the Central Macomb Chamber of Commerce.

The cultures were chosen based on the prevalence of the language spoken in the Macomb County school districts and the reported 2000 Census ancestry groups. Once the top 16 foreign languages were chosen, they were then associated with a country, in some cases, more than one. Some of the languages and cultures chosen include Albanian, Hmong and Vietnamese. Each brochure contains information about the history, language, culture, religion, and business practices of the particular country. An expert will review each brochure.



The completed brochures will be available at the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development, the Central Macomb Chamber of Commerce and various businesses throughout Macomb County.

## Spotlight on Business: Update

Those who regularly read the department's Planning & Development News are now familiar with the manufacturing company **Faurecia Interior Systems**. Last year this Tier 1 automotive supplier, with headquarters in Nanterre, France, established two new operations in Macomb County: one in the city of Fraser and a second in the city of Sterling Heights. Today Faurecia is preparing to open a third Macomb County-based facility. The new plant will provide "just-in-time" delivery of pre-assembled front-end and interior modules to DaimlerChrysler's Sterling Height Assembly Plant (SHAP).

This emerging JIT facility is located on Merrill Drive in Sterling Heights, a mere two-miles from SHAP. The building, previously occupied by Chivas Products, is undergoing major renovations by Faurecia. Demolition of the building's former office area has made way for the

construction of expanded manufacturing space and new two-story office accommodations. The resulting 122,000 square foot facility is scheduled to commence production in August of this year. Faurecia's investment in the operation is comprised of \$3.4 million for building improvements and nearly \$4.5 million for new machinery and equipment. Once production is in full swing, the company estimates that there will be in excess of 200 employees at the site.

**Burtek Incorporated** is a rapidly growing producer of custom-designed-and-built land vehicles that are manufactured exclusively for military, law enforcement and homeland security applications. The company, with headquarters in Chesterfield Township, has recently expanded their operations to accommodate increased orders coming from around the globe. Burtek has leased an additional

52,000 square feet of manufacturing/assembly space and invested more than \$1 million in new machinery and equipment. The latest of their projects is a specially designed Mobile Radiation Portal Monitor, commissioned by the Department of Homeland Security for use by the U.S. Border Patrol. As Burtek's business expands they have also been increasing their workforce. Having hired nearly 80 new employees last year, the company anticipates creating up to 100 additional new jobs over the next two years.

The Department of Planning and Economic Development is proud to be assisting these companies that have invested in their futures here in Macomb County. To learn more about the department's economic development services, please contact us at 586.469.5285, or visit us at our website: [www.MacombBusiness.com](http://www.MacombBusiness.com).

To include your community in the highlights feature, please call 586.469.5285

